

New deadline will provide American service members more time to claim special retroactive pay

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – On the eve of Veteran’s Day, Congressman Sam Farr is urging family and friends of veterans and soldiers to help spread the word on retroactive stop loss payments earned through military service. The Department of Defense this year is providing special retroactive pay for active, reserve and former service members who involuntarily had their enlistment period extended or retirement suspended if they served on active duty between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009.

“A great way to honor our service members and veterans is to provide a much earned line of support,” said Congressman Sam Farr. “We have a duty to our uniformed men and women, and it is critical that we spread the word so our brave soldiers and veterans do not miss out on these payments they have earned.”

Service members must submit claims for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay no later than December 3, 2010. Eligible personnel will receive a payment of \$500 per month for each month (or any portion of a month) they were retained on active duty due to the process known as “stop loss.”

Service members must provide documented proof with their claim. Family members of deceased service members should contact the appropriate military service for assistance in filing their claim. Stop-lossed service members who voluntarily reenlisted or extended their service, and received a bonus for such reenlistment or extension of service, are no longer eligible to receive retroactive stop loss special pay.

For more information and instruction on how to file a claim, visit the website below or call the following numbers for specific branches of service:

- Army: 877-736-5554
- Air Force: 800-525-0102
- Marine Corps: 877-242-2830
- Navy: 901-874-4427
- http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2010/0710_stoploss/

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